

## ~Flames of Faith Ascending Prayers~



ISRAEL365 by Boruch Len

October 26, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior,

I have been diligently seeking the Lord and searching the scriptures. Many things have come my way in the midst of this. I know it is the same for all of you who also dedicate your time and energy to seeking first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness. When I look at this picture it represents to me what happens when we allow the Word of God to wash over us. The water is refreshing but it also beats against the hard areas of our lives in a rhythmic consistency that cleanses each layer as it is exposed to the Light. It is difficult to tell in this picture but the side that is exposed to the water and light has become smooth and clean compared to the side that you can see. The side you see is still covered with a layer of moss. Although it is exposed to the light, it is not yet submitted to the washing of the water in that particular area.

So it is with us. But, if we continue in the Word and submit to the continual rhythmic Washing of the Water of the Word each part of us will be scrubbed until the moss is removed and we will be smooth and shiny too.

I Corinthians 6:11 says...and such were some of you: but you are washed, but you are sanctified, but you are justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

**Ephesians 5:25-27 adds...as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of the water by the word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.**

**The following articles in this issue of Flames of Faith were brought to my attention by the Lord and in seeking Him I am compelled to be obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit. I pray the Words of the Lord will bring you refreshing but also the washing. Jesus says His words are Spirit and they are Life.**

**In Proverbs 8:8 the Lord says...All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.**

**And Psalm 12:6 says the words of the Lord are pure words; as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.**

**Revelation 1:5-6 sums it up pretty well as it speaks now...and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth, Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to Him be Glory and Dominion for ever and ever. Amen.**

*~ Jewells ~*



**1 John 2:15-16**

(15) Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (16) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. *King James Version*

**These verses provide a basic guideline for avoiding entrapment by this alluring heart of the Babylonish system. Since this system has its basis in human nature, it feeds right into [the desires](#) for frequent change and variety of experience as the answers to fulfillment in life.**

The Bible, however, clearly reveals [God](#) drawing His children into His oneness, which is diametrically opposed to [the world's system which promotes fulfillment in material things, excitement, gratification of the flesh, and variety of religious experience](#). Its major fruits are easily seen in [the world](#) around us as confusion of purpose, competition, disharmony, disunity, separation from each other and God, and death.

The result is that this world is not a happy place to live in. None of these factors can give a lasting sense of [peace](#), fulfillment, and abundant living because none of them harmonizes with the purpose of God. They can only produce a temporary burst of emotional well-being or satisfaction.

God instructed Israel often and in many ways against this proclivity. They were to seek only Him in His only habitation in Jerusalem. Israel, though, is disastrously curious and incautious and filled with discontented, unsettled, impatient, "grass is always greener" yearnings.

*~ John W. Ritenbaugh ~  
The Berean*

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## WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO READ

I was deep into study this morning and I came across an article and as I was reading it I suddenly became so nauseated that I had to stop and pray. Another article came across my path, and then another. I was distressed by what I was reading and again I sought the Lord.

The following pages contain a small portion of a letter and teaching that the Lord brought to my attention in answer to my prayer. I was searching for the truth. The gospel that was first delivered to the original apostles by our Lord Jesus has not changed. The Word of Truth that they preached is the same today as it was then. Our Lord and Savior, yes, our Father in heaven, has not changed and He will never change. It is in His Holy Spirit, that as true believers, we live and move and have our being.

I had seen parts of this revealing but the Holy Spirit opened the eyes of my heart to see deeper and I saw a dark sinister spirit that has come upon the church as we have known it and it is so vile that it sickened my stomach. As I explained to my husband I suddenly felt another wave of nausea. And for the third time as I write this note to you my spirit is again sickened by this insidious deception.

We have known this was coming. A deception so strong that if possible the very elect would be deceived. And what is the sin that cannot be pardoned?

What you are about to read is only a small portion of the entire letter and teaching. I do not know the name of the writer. It was written to reveal the deception that has entered the doors of most churches. The author named names and called out certain churches. I have removed the names of people and churches from this copy to you. It is the truth the Holy Spirit has instructed me to share. I will not point fingers. This deception has spread beyond a few people and more than a few churches. If you want the full article all you have to do is ask. I will give it to you. But for now I pray, forgive us Lord. Your Holy Spirit is Pure and Holy.



## Do We Discern God's True Presence from a Counterfeit?

### THE REAL AND COUNTERFEIT PRESENCE OF GOD

The New Age does believe man can experience a presence as an "invisible energy field." Taken from The Donning International Encyclopedic Psychic Dictionary June G. Bletzer (West Chester, PA: Whitford Press, a division of Schiffer Publishing, Ltd.), 1986, we read:

"A PRESENCE: 1. any invisible energy field that is psychically sensed and felt to be a life-form (as man knows life) as opposed to an inert energy field, . . . e.g., a dead bird in one hand and a live bird in the other hand give two distinct feelings" (Donning, p. 1).

In "War on the Saints," Jesse Penn Lewis ran this interesting comparison about the presence of God and of evil spirits:

**COUNTERFEIT MANIFESTATION:** "The counterfeit of the Presence of God is mainly felt upon the body, and by the physical senses, in conscious 'fire,' 'thrills,' etc. The counterfeit of the Presence in the atmosphere is felt by the senses of the body, as 'breath,' 'wind,' etc., whilst the mind is passive or inactive. The person affected by this counterfeit "presence" will be moved almost automatically to actions he would not perform of his own will, and with all his faculties in operation. He may not even remember what he has done when under the 'power' of this 'presence,' just as a sleep-walker knows nothing of his actions when in that state. The inaction of the mind can often be seen by the vacant look in the eyes." (p. 153).

**TRUE MANIFESTATION: "The Presence of God":** Known in and by the human spirit, through the Holy Spirit. When He fills the atmosphere of a room the spirit of man is conscious of it, not his senses. The faculties of those present are alert and clear and they retain freedom of action. The spirit is made tender (Psa. xxxiv.18), and the will pliable to the will of God. All the actions of a person moved by the true and pure Presence of God are in accord with the highest ideal of harmony and grace" (P. 152).

1 Corinthians 14:33, "For God is not a God of disorder but of peace." And in verse 40, Paul says, "But EVERYTHING should be done in a fitting and orderly way" (emphasis mine). Comparing the two definitions above from Penn Lewis should serve as a means of building discernment. James 3:14-16, the devil's wisdom, and verses 17-18, God's wisdom, should not be left out of such a comparison either:

"But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such 'wisdom' does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and EVERY evil practice" (vv. 14-16).

"But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure, then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness" (vv. 17-18).

Envy and self-ambition are matters of the heart, and only God can see the heart, but wisdom manifests the character of the spirit from which it comes. In the devil's case, "disorder and every evil practice" are manifested. In contrast, God's character is manifested through his wisdom as peace resulting in righteousness. The "every evil practice" are those manifestations that deny God's presence, which brings about things done in not an orderly way, while God's presence manifests in a way that is befitting the peace that He is and is therefore inherent in His wisdom.



## The Distinctive features of true Christian experience

(i) A true Christian experience of God's love is not transmitted physically by touch, or by a man "calling down" the Holy Spirit on people. Human beings, however godly they may be, have no power to unleash the Holy Spirit into the souls of other believers. The Spirit is not some sort of force at man's disposal, to be thrown at people or blown onto people. There is nothing in Scripture to support such an idea. Yet this is how people like ----- and ----- behave, as if the Holy Spirit were some kind of liquid they can dispense to people by physical means, like alcohol. Indeed the Holy Spirit is often compared to alcohol in the ----- . "The bar is open," ----- leaders proclaim. "Come and take a deep drink of the Holy Spirit." And when people do come and drink and then exhibit the various bizarre forms of physical response, they are often said to be "drunk on the new wine." ----- has brought this approach to dispensing the Holy Spirit to its most extreme form; one often hears him commanding the Lord Jesus Christ to zap people with the Holy Spirit.

"Go get 'em, Jesus," you hear him saying. "Go get all those stuffed religious faces and make 'em laugh. Fill 'em up, Jesus!" It seems quite clear that ----- thinks that he has Christ and the Holy Spirit at his disposal.

By contrast with all this, Scripture does not teach any idea, or give any example, of people being able to (as it were) transplant the Holy Spirit by physical means into the soul of a Christian. The nearest we get to anything even remotely resembling this notion is that on two occasions in Acts, the Apostles laid hands on people that they might receive the Holy Spirit.

These two occasions are found in Acts 8, where Peter and John lay hands on the Samaritan believers, and Acts 19, where Paul lays hands on the Ephesian disciples of John the Baptist. But in both these cases, these were people who had not yet received the Holy Spirit at all; neither the Samaritans, nor the Ephesian followers of John, had in any sense been made partakers of the gift of the Holy Spirit, until the Apostles laid hands on them. This was the very first giving of the Spirit to these people to indwell them as believers in Christ.

So it is a totally different situation from the -----, because in the ----- the people to whom ----- and others allegedly transmit the Holy Spirit are already professing Christians—indeed, they are charismatic and Pentecostal Christians, who would claim to have already received the Holy Spirit in a special fashion anyway. Yet apparently ----- is able to give the Holy Spirit to them all over again by tapping them on the forehead.

So even on the two occasions where Scripture does show us the Holy Spirit being imparted by the laying on of hands (which is not the same as tapping someone on the forehead), it is very different to the -----, because in Scripture it refers to the first ever reception of the Holy Spirit into the life of believers to indwell them, rather than some subsequent so-called blessing. And of course, in Scripture, it was the Apostles alone through whom God worked in this way. See Acts 8:18-19. The Apostles were unique; no-one today can claim the status and power they exercised. (In Acts 8, if ----- rather than Philip had been evangelizing the Samaritans, he would not have waited for the Apostles to come from Jerusalem to lay hands on the new converts. He would have “zapped” the Samaritans himself)

The ----- leaders usurp powers that they do not have; they do not employ the Scriptural and traditional rites, and treat the "Holy Spirit" as if "He" were some personal commodity of their own—an idea which no minister within the Church would entertain and one which blasphemes the Sovereign Spirit, Who is our True God.

To sum up: **there is no Scriptural evidence that anyone can impart the Holy Spirit by physical methods into the soul of a believer who is already indwelt by the Spirit.**

-----, ----- and their imitators have embraced an unscriptural practice which has degraded the Holy Spirit from being the sovereign and almighty God into a mere electrical force or power that they can automatically channel into people.

**(ii) In true Christian experience, the Holy Spirit is not channeled into our souls like some spiritual force by physical means such as touch. The second difference is that a true Christian experience of God's love comes by means of the truth. The Holy Spirit works in and through and by means of the truth.**

Let's go back to Romans 5:5, and also read the next three verses. Notice how after Paul says that God's love is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, he immediately goes on to say that God's love has been demonstrated or made known to us by the death of Christ. God commends His love to us in this, that while we were sinners Christ died for us. So when the Holy Spirit fills our hearts with this wonderful sense of God's love, it is not some instant zap experience that bypasses the mind. What the Holy Spirit does is to bring home to our minds this great truth, that Christ died for us; He takes that truth and impresses it upon our minds, giving us a clear and vivid spiritual understanding of it; and by that means He fills us with a wonderful sense and feeling of how much God loves us. Our experience of God's love is a response to the revealed truth of God's love.



The Spirit of God works through the Word of God; true spiritual emotions and experiences arise out of God's Word, as our minds are opened up by the Holy Spirit to see and grasp and understand the Word.

Let's consider some verses that show the centrality and importance of the mind, the truth and the Word of God in imparting life, blessing and sanctification to the believer:

**The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes (Ps. 19:7-9).**

**It is the Spirit Who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words I speak to you, they are spirit and they are life (St. John 6:63).**

**You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (St. John 8:32).**

**Sanctify them by the truth; Your Word is truth (St. John 17:17).**

**Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the Word of God which lives and abides for ever (1 Peter 1:22-3).**

**But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of truth... The anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him (1 John 2:20-21 & 27).**

These verses show that the Holy Spirit does not bypass the truth or short-circuit our understandings when he works in us, sanctifies us, awakens holy emotions, or brings us into fellowship with God. The Spirit works through the truth, through the Word, teaches us, enlightens our minds with true understanding, and in that way kindles and awakens genuine spiritual feelings and experiences.

Jonathan Edwards [a renowned American Protestant theologian, 1703-58—note supplied by the author] makes this point with great force in his *Treatise Concerning Religious Affections*:

Holy affections are not heat without light; but evermore arise from some information of the understanding, some spiritual instruction that the mind receives, some light of actual knowledge. The child of God is graciously affected, because he sees and understands something more of divine things than he did before, more of God or Christ, and of the glorious things exhibited in the gospel. He has a clearer and better view than he had before, when he was not affected; either he receives some new understanding of divine things, or has his former knowledge renewed after his view was decayed. [Edwards then quotes 1 John 4:7, Philippians 1:9, Romans 10:2, Colossians 3:10, Psalm 43:3-4, and St. John 6:45 to prove his point] Knowledge is the key that first opens the hard heart, enlarges the affections, and opens the way for men into the kingdom of heaven; Luke 11:52, "Ye have taken away the key of knowledge." Now there are many affections which do not arise from any light of understanding; which is a sure evidence that these affections are not spiritual, let them be ever so high. [7]

What Edwards warns against here is what we see going on in the ----- . Here, the Holy Spirit supposedly works without truth as His instrument. He directly zaps people into a state of joy or peace or feeling loved. But there is no truth involved; there is no enlightenment of the mind to understand truth. Truth is bypassed in favor of this instant zap experience. So the emotions and experiences that arise are not a response to truth, but a mindless explosion of feeling that has no basis in truth, or in a mind being enlightened to understand the truth.

This is not the way that the Holy Spirit works; this mindless spirituality is not Biblical. The mark of true Biblical spirituality is that it flows out of the truth and is based on a proper understanding of truth. Our Christian feelings and experiences come to us in response to the truth, as that truth is found in God's Word, and as the Holy Spirit applies it to us with sanctifying power.

That is why preaching and teaching are so important in the life of the Church. And that is why preaching and teaching have so little place in the ----- . Truth to them is not important. The all-important thing is the instant zap experience. That is why it does not bother most of them that the ----- originated in the dreadful heresies of the Faith Movement. That doesn't matter, because truth is not what is important to them; what matters is the feelings, the joy, the mindless experience. This is directly opposed to genuine Christian spirituality.

These facts sap the credibility of all the claims we hear of Christians being spiritually renewed by the ----- to a deeper holiness. The kind of experiences we have been examining could not renew anyone to true holiness. They might (for a time) make someone more aggressive and confident in whatever beliefs he already held, whether Christian or not. And therefore it might lead to more religious activity—more praying, more Bible studying, more evangelizing. But these things are not convincing proof of [authentic growth in holiness](#). Where is the increased reverence for God? The chaotic clowning of the ----- is calculated to destroy, not promote, reverence. Where is the submission to Scripture? Studying the Bible is not the same as submitting to it.

At this point it is worth saying that many defend ----- experiences, even the most bizarre and degrading ones, by appealing to the words of the Lord Jesus Christ in Luke 11:11-13:

Which of you fathers, if a son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks an egg, will he give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him.

The argument is that ----- experiences must come from God, because He would not allow His children to receive false experiences when they ask Him for the Holy Spirit. But this argument really cuts no ice. What exactly are people desiring or asking for or expecting in a ----- meeting? The answer is, a certain experience.

In their own minds they have identified the Holy Spirit with certain types of experience, usually involving physical manifestations.

So when an anointed leader "calls down the Holy Spirit," what he means is that he wants certain experiences and manifestations now to take place in the meeting.

This is what people are "asking God for." The very asking, in other words, takes it for granted that the various emotional and physical experiences of the ----- are the Holy Spirit at work. But we have seen many reasons to think otherwise. This kind of "asking the Father for the Spirit" is therefore a religious delusion from the very outset. It is therefore not very surprising those who open themselves up to the Spirit," on that false understanding that he will manifest His power through a certain experience, then undergo that false experience.

Why did god not protect His child from the counterfeit experience? Because the child was already deceived. Well, we ourselves have the personal responsibility to test the spirits (1 John 4:1). If we do not carry out that responsibility by searching the Scriptures carefully and submissively, and testing everything against what Scripture clearly teaches, we cannot blame God if we then fall into deception and bogus experiences.

That would be like blaming God for not protecting us against electrocution if we fooled about trying to fix a generator, without carefully studying the technical manual. Editor's note: essentially Orthodox teachers would reiterate what our author says in this paragraph, however, they would say that he does not go far enough and would doubtless insist on a more careful testing of the spirits, not only in the light of "what Scripture clearly teaches," (which, as we can see from the example of the misuse of the Lord's words from Luke 11:11-13, can also he "clearly" misinterpreted too), but by also applying scriptural teaching in the light of Holy Tradition and, if at all possible, by taking advice from a spiritual director.]

## **HEAR WHAT DAVID WILKERSON HAS TO SAY ABOUT UNUSUAL MANIFESTATION**

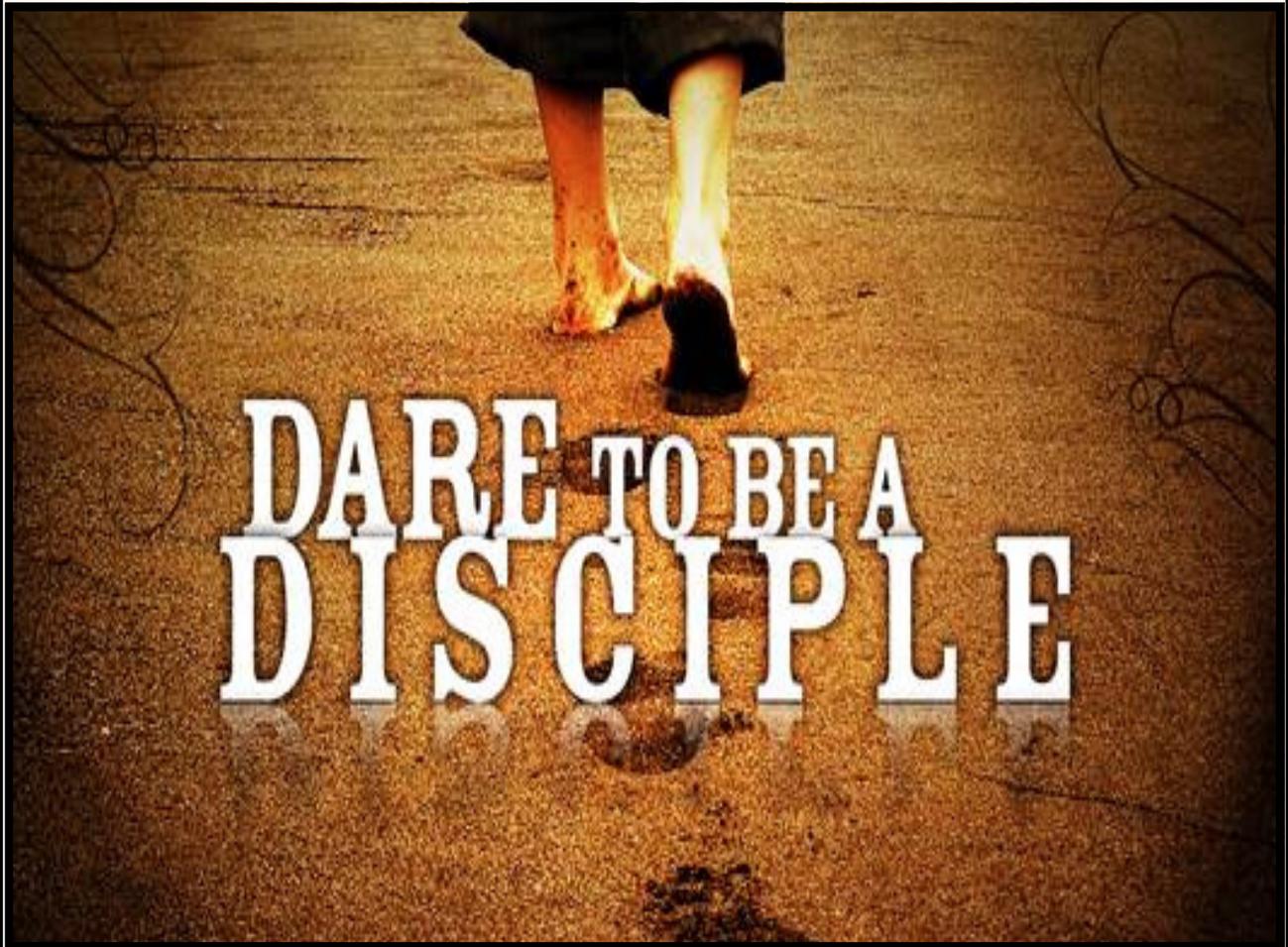
David Wilkerson's view about Toronto Blessing type manifestations and other weird behavior in today's church. The end of the video is particularly powerful.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=IrpW6Xctg8Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=IrpW6Xctg8Q)

Referenced from  
**New Age Christianity**  
**Thursday, November 4, 2010**

**Latter Rain New Age Agenda**

A message from Moxie



And,  
Don't be afraid to wash one another's feet !

Jewells